

# 8

OUR CASE: ZL 0126

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

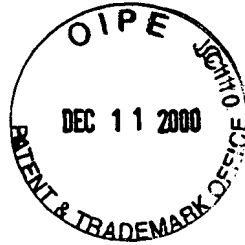
ANDREAS WEILER

Serial No.: 09/248,812

Filed: February 11, 1999

SOFT TISSUE GRAFT FIXATION  
DEVICE AND METHODHon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:



Mailed: December 7, 2000

Group: 3738

Examiner: M. Milano

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

DEC 18 2000

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## AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of September 7, 2000, Applicant hereby replies  
as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6 and 7 to read as follows:

-- ~~6~~ <sup>3</sup>. (Once Amended) A surgical implant according to claim [1] ~~5~~ wherein  
said recess comprises a flat surface the plane of which is perpendicular to the axis of  
said throughbore. --

-- ~~7~~ <sup>4</sup>. (Once Amended) [A] In combination, a secondary implant and a  
primary implant, said secondary surgical implant for use with [a] said primary surgical  
implant in a bone tunnel having an axis, a first predetermined diameter along the  
length of said tunnel, a proximal end and a distal end, said primary surgical implant  
engaging a ligament graft within said bone tunnel, said ligament graft being in  
alignment with said axis and occupying a predetermined amount of space within said  
tunnel such that the transverse cross-sectional area of the graft-occupied portion of  
said tunnel comprises a first predetermined size at a first point adjacent said primary